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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 10 July 2006 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The toll of human carnage and physical destruction being caused by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continues to rise as Israel continues to wage its senseless and unlawful aggression against the Palestinian people. The military attacks and other measures of collective punishment that continue to be meted out by the occupying forces against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip are in flagrant violation of all norms and rules of international law, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention, which governs situations of foreign occupation.

Israeli declarations to continue pursuing this violent military aggression are a frightening indication of the widening scope of this tragedy and of the increasing bloodshed and loss to be suffered by the Palestinian people at the hands of their occupier. Hundreds of Palestinian families have been fleeing their homes and many more have voiced their desire to leave the area in search of safety, fearing for their lives even in the sanctity of their own homes, but have been unable to do so for fear of the continuing barrage of attacks and have called upon various international agencies to help them reach safe areas. This dramatic decline of the humanitarian situation in Gaza has been unequivocally corroborated by various United Nations agencies functioning in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and warnings of an impending humanitarian disaster are increasing.

In the period since my last letter to you, the Israeli occupying forces have persisted in launching an endless series of attacks by warplanes and tanks against targets throughout the Gaza Strip, including heavily populated civilian areas, killing and wounding more civilians and causing more destruction to infrastructure and property. Among the rising number of casualties caused in recent days by the occupying Power have been three innocent members of the same family. Just two days ago, on Saturday, 8 July, the Israeli occupying forces carried out several air missile strikes, one of which hit a home in a neighbourhood east of Gaza City,

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killing a mother, Amina Hajjaj, her 6-year-old daughter Rawan, and her 20-year-old son Mohammed, and wounding another four members of that family in their own home. Such cruel and murderous acts against defenceless civilians should be vehemently condemned, all efforts should be exerted to bring them to an immediate halt, and those responsible should be brought to justice.

In addition, to the human casualties, the Israeli occupying forces continue to cause wanton and deliberate destruction in the Gaza Strip, wreaking widespread havoc and laying waste to vital Palestinian infrastructure. Over the weekend, the occupying forces destroyed another bridge and a power transformer in Beit Hanoun and, in Beit Lahiya, tanks barrelling through narrow streets sheared off outer walls of buildings, including homes, knocked down electricity poles and destroyed streets, and bulldozers razed fields and trees an destroyed greenhouses.

All of this has been taking place at the same time that the Palestinian leadership continues to exert all possible efforts to calm the situation and to reach a diplomatic solution to the current crisis. On Saturday, 8 July 2006, Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh publicly called for a truce and for talks and mediation aimed at resolving the issue of the Israeli soldier taken prisoner. However, these calls were completely rejected by the Government of Israel, which has instead chosen to continue flexing its military power against the Palestinian people, pounding them relentlessly with military attacks and collectively punishing them in blatant violation of international law.

The international community cannot continue with conscience to tolerate this inhumane and lawless treatment of the defenceless Palestinian civilian population by Israel, the occupying Power. The continued passivity of the international community, including the Security Council and the Quartet, can only further embolden Israel to continue acting with impunity and total disregard for international law as it has been doing for decades. Here, it is relevant to recall that 9 July 2006 marked the second anniversary of the International Court of Justice's rendering of its historic Advisory Opinion on the wall being constructed by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which identified the countless breaches of international law being committed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and determined the applicable rules of international law and Israel's binding obligations in this regard, which Israel continues to violate and about which the international community continues to be passive.

Indeed, as long as the international community continues to be unable to act to bring an end to such Israeli violations, including those being committed in this crisis, the Palestinian people, including innocent children and women, will only continue to face more bloodshed, suffering and loss. The Palestinian leadership thus reiterates its appeals for urgent action to be taken by all concerned parties, foremost the Security Council, to bring an end to this lethal aggression by the Israeli occupying forces and to alleviate the critical humanitarian situation being endured by the Palestinian people.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 252 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 6 July 2006 (A/ES-10/344-S/2006/489), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian

people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters it is my profound regret to inform you that since 22 June 2006 and until 10 July 2006, at least 67 more Palestinian civilians, including children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 3,995. (The names of the martyrs that have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter.)

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 10 July 2006 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem Thursday, 22 June 2006, to Monday, 10 July 2006*

Thursday, 22 June 2006

Ayman Rateb Jabareen

Wednesday, 28 June 2006

Nehadd Mahani

Friday, 30 June 2006

1. Mohammad Hussain Abdelal
2. Mahmoud Zakari

Saturday, 1 July 2006

Shaa'ban Mannouna

Sunday, 2 July 2006

1. Arafat Suleiman Al-Abed
2. Mohammad Mahmoud Abu Hani

Monday, 3 July 2006

Abdel Raheem Jaber Daraj

Tuesday, 4 July 2006

1. Fida' Nimr Qandeel (18 years old)
2. Isamail Rateb Al-Masri

Wednesday, 5 July 2006

1. Mahmoud Shaheen Haymour
2. Hossam Hijazi
3. Rami Abu Hashem

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 3,995.

Thursday, 6 July 2006

1. Abdallah Khaleel Al-Zomor
2. Mohammad Sabri Abu Tair
3. Mohammad Suleiman Al-Najjar
4. Ahmed Abdallah Al-Khalidi
5. Mohammad Abu Tafesh
6. Mohammad Ahmed Al-Attar
7. Mohammad Youssef Faza'a
8. Abdel Rahman Al-Najjar
9. Sa'ed Farawneh
10. Mohammad Rabah Shaheen
11. Ahmad Abu Matar
12. Ibrahim Abu Rashed (18 years old)
13. Na'el Halawa
14. Khaled Nasr
15. Rif'at Nasr
16. Ri'fat Mansour
17. Bassem Reehan
18. Adham Hassan Al-Dairy
19. Shadi Al-Sakni
20. Ahmad Abu Askar
21. Adel Al-Attalah
22. Mohammad Abd Rabbo
23. Mohammad Al-Deraimli (19 years old)

Friday, 7 July 2006

1. Tamer Qandeel
2. Ahmed Naghnaghiya (17 years old)
3. Ammar Mustafa Hannoun (17 years old)
4. Mo'taz Al-Feeri (18 years old)
5. Shadi Omar
6. Tha'er Al-Tannani
7. Anwar Attallah (11 years old)
8. Taher Al-Amoudi

9. Fadi Al-Obaid
10. Wa'el Hashem Nasr
11. Misbah Al-Attar
12. Abu Khaled Dawood
13. Abdel Nasser Abu Howaidi
14. Abdel Jabbar Al-Hossari

Saturday, 8 July 2006

1. Ahmed Al-Sarsak (18 years old)
2. Hani Abu Al-Qomboz
3. Khaleel Al-Hajjar
4. Jaber Shantaf
5. Tareq Al-Jamamsi
6. Amina Hajjaj
7. Mohammed Hajjaj
8. Rawan Hajjaj (6 years old)
9. Emad Al-Athamnnah
10. Jabr Reehan (19 years old)
11. Iyad Abu Suroor (19 years old)
12. Nimr Shallah

Sunday, 9 July 2006

1. Bilal Suleiman Ribaa' (18 years old)
2. Rami Saleem Al-Najjar (18 years old)

Monday, 10 July 2006

1. Khaled Nidal Wahba (15 months old)
2. Mohammad Khalifa
3. Ra'ed Abu Salah

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Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 12 July 2006 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Palestinian death toll continues to rise as Israel, the occupying Power, continues to carry out its incessant series of military assaults, using all means of lethal weaponry to forge ahead with its maniacal, excessive and indiscriminate use of force, extrajudicial executions and State terror against the Palestinian civilian population held captive under its brutal occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The result has been the slaughter of more and more innocent Palestinian civilians, including women and children, each day. Such criminal actions by the Israeli occupying forces must be firmly and explicitly condemned by the international community and those perpetrating such criminal acts must be held accountable and brought to justice.

The most recent such attack occurred early today in the pre-dawn hours in the Gaza Strip when an Israeli F-16 warplane dropped a 550-pound bomb on a home in the heavily populated Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood in Gaza City. This deliberate assault, declared by Israel, the occupying Power, to have been launched for the purpose of assassinating high-ranking Hamas officials, resulted in the massacre of at least nine Palestinian civilians, including a woman and seven children, all members of the same family in that home. The bombing also caused the collapse of the three-story home, endangering the lives of hundreds of other civilians in adjacent homes in the area. In this regard, it is being reported that there are still at least 4 people missing and that more than 30 other people were wounded in the attack, several of whom are in critical condition.

Today's bloody massacre of Palestinian civilians by Israel, the occupying Power, comes against the backdrop of Israel's expanding military aggression and its intransigent rejection of all efforts for diplomacy and mediation to address the current crisis. Indeed, the occupying Power continues only to pursue its military agenda, deliberately causing widespread death, destruction and suffering for the Palestinian civilian population, particularly in the besieged Gaza Strip. In this

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regard, the Israeli occupying forces pushed deeper into Gaza overnight, moving into the central Gaza Strip and taking control of the main north-south road there, bisecting the area into two. At the same time, Israeli snipers seized positions on the rooftops of buildings and homes in the area and Israeli tanks and bulldozers continued to destroy crops and agricultural land, particularly in the Khan Younis area. All of the above-mentioned incidents continue to severely impact the already deplorable humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, where the Palestinian civilian population is suffering from serious shortages of food, medicine and clean water supplies.

In the light of this continuing dramatic deterioration of the situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the Palestinian people and their leadership reiterate their urgent appeals to the international community to take action to bring an end to the senseless daily slaughter of Palestinians and the wanton destruction being deliberately committed by Israel, the occupying Power. Serious and concerted action by the international community, including the Security Council, in accordance with its authority and responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, must be taken in order to bring a halt to this insanity and to stem this dangerous and tragic downward spiral of the situation. The international community cannot continue to forsake its responsibilities under international law, including under the Fourth Geneva Convention, to address this crisis and, foremost, to provide protection for the defenceless Palestinian civilian population under Israeli occupation.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 253 letters to you regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. Those letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 10 July 2006 (A/ES-10/346-S/2006/501), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. Moreover, we reiterate once again that for all of these war crimes, State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned letters, it is my profound regret to inform you that since my last letter to you just two days ago, at least 30 more Palestinian civilians, including children, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, raising the total number of martyrs killed since September 2000 to 4,025. (The names of the martyrs who have been identified are listed in the annex to the present letter.)

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 12 July 2006 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem*

(Monday, 10 July, to Wednesday, 12 July 2006)

Monday, 10 July 2006

1. Ahmad Shebat (16 years old)
2. Ahmad Abu Amsha (15 years old)
3. Raji Daifallah
4. Mahfouz Fareed Nossair (17 years old)
5. Majed Mahmoud Al-Sheikh
6. Ayman Al-Akawi
7. Mitwalli Al-Arqan

Tuesday, 11 July 2006

1. Ahmad Shaheen
2. Mohammad Sharab (15 years old)
3. Yousri Al-Safadi
4. Muna Ismail (19 years old)
5. Ziad Abu Maghaseeb
6. Hamza Abu Ziadeh (18 months old)
7. Waleed Al-Zinati (12 years old)

Wednesday, 12 July 2006

1. Hisham Abu Noussairah
2. Tareq Nassar (19 years old)
3. Nabeel Abu Salmiyya
4. Salwa Abu Salmiyya
5. Samia Nabeel Abu Salmiya
6. Basma Nabeel Abu Salmiya
7. Hoda Nabeel Abu Salmiya

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 4,025.

8. Eman Nabeel Abu Salmiya
9. Aya Nabeel Abu Salmiya
10. Yehya Nabeel Abu Salmiya
11. Nasrallah Nabeel Abu Salmiya
12. Juma' Saleem
13. Fadi Qadeeh (19 years old)
14. Salama Al-Basheeti
15. Tamer Muhareb
16. Mohammad Khamees Al-Masri